



**HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL VIRGINIA WING
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
7401 Airfield Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23237-2250**



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**TO: ALL VIRGINIA WING SENIOR MEMBERS AND CADETS
COMMANDERS PLEASE POST**

FROM: HQ, VIRGINIA WING, Administrative Assistant, Terry Picha

UNIT NEWSLETTER: It is very important that you share this Newsletter with all Members of your Unit. Please review this material at your unit meeting and post a copy on your Bulletin Board so that it will be available to ALL members. (Members can't participate if you do not tell them about coming events). This Bulletin is posted on the Virginia Wing Website as a PDF document.

Nov 2003

- 1 Flight Clinic, VAWG Headquarters
- 8 Squadron Leadership School, Danville Composite Squadron
- 15 Tabletop Planning Exercise, HQ, Chesterfield
- 14-15 NEC Meeting, Montgomery, Alabama

REPORTS DUE: (Required by NHQ &/or Wing CC)

- 5** - Corp. Vehicle Daily Inspection Reports
- 10** - VA Wg A/C Utilization Reports due (Including Checks)
Public Affairs Report

Dec 2003

- 6 Commanders Call - All Wing Staff, Group Commanders and Unit Commander should attend. All members welcome. Start promptly at 10:00 a.m., Wing HQ**

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Public Affairs Report

1. WING COMMANDER COMMENTS – These are items that were discussed at the Middle East Region Conference. I pass them on to your. If you have questions, contact your Group Commander.

- SAR Training Funds -- Col Glass has released one-half of the expected SAR Training money (\$15,000 of the expected \$30,000 total for the year) to get us going for now. He thinks the other half will be forthcoming as the year progresses.
- We will need to keep STRICT ACCOUNTING of the SAR Training funds expenditures as we move through the year. A new mandate is that we report the HOBBS times and FUEL COSTS to Jay Langley within 8 DAYS of completing the training (vice 3 days). In theory, they will know how much money remains so that they don't turn it back as they did this year. Also, the State Director will no longer need to send the monthly report to Jay as he will have the same information. The O-Ride report is still needed. A new policy letter is forthcoming from MER.
- Col Glass PROMOTION POLICY reminder -- Colonel Glass reminded everyone of his policy regarding promotion to Lt Col for the prior-military and current military types. Promotions are neither automatic nor required. He has set forth his criteria for this kind of promotion, already printed and distributed. Each promotion board should take this to heart and follow his criteria precisely before sending it up the chain for approval. The need for six months minimum in CAP plus doing something with positive action and participation are not negotiable with him. Unit Commanders -- please do NOT promise a promotion to former military types as you may not be able to get it past the Region commander!

- **AWARDS and Decorations** -- Use an awards committee to filter out those that are not genuine. Recommender must give real explanation of exactly what is being/ has been done by the individual. They must clearly earn it. The Region Commander expects to see sustained performance for long period of time. Distinguished Service Medal -- for completion of 4 years as Wing Commander; Exceptional Service Medal - those with significant impact, responsibility, duration in a region level activity; Unit Citation - Only the best in the Wing. One award. It is suggested that Certificates of Appreciation be given when higher criteria not met. I agree.
- **GLIDER FLIGHTS** -- NCWG will be looking to participate in some regard with NCWG folks once the glider moves to Chesapeake. Group V Commander will be coordinating with NCWG representative.
- **COMMUNICATIONS** -- A significant purchase of ISR Radios at national will result in each Wing getting approximately 60 by end of December. They are restricted to use by GROUND TEAMS, so we will need to look into how to distribute them across the wing for good value. I do not want them all squirreled away in the comm cache... these are intended for the field. I want them in the hands of people who go into the field. Also -- 300 VHF handhelds are being purchased with perhaps 5 each coming to the Wing. More details as they arrive.
- **ES NEWS** -- MER SAR College set for 30 Apr - 2 May 2004, Fort Pickett. Also Region Staff College -- 20 - 26 June 2004, Peace College in Raleigh NC. This year cost is \$225. VAWG will continue to subsidize part of the cost for VAWG members who attend.
- The CAPR 60-3 is out for comments until 15 November. Send any comments you might have to Col. Charlie Glass by that date for consolidated response from MER.
- National Cadet Competition - 6-10 July at Wright-Patterson. IACE 15 July to 6 August.
- Counter drug Training -- Funding reduced to holding just 2 CD Training Missions in FY04. Announcement to come. The online CD refresher course will remain open through 30 November.

2. CHIEF-of-STAFF- The third Monday of each month has been set aside for a Wing Staff Meeting. It will be held at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise specified.

I would like to take time to thank Major Mark Kunkowski for the many days and hours he has committed to providing Virginia Wing with one of the best IT programs within the Civil Air Patrol. We have been very fortunate to have someone of his caliber available to set up our web sites and list servers and run our network. It is with great reluctance that we must let Mark must step down from his position with the wing staff to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest with his day job.

Wing Staff Positions Available

Finance Officer (FM): Ideally, the FM should have a degree in accounting or be a CPA. Knowledge of accrual accounting, OMB circulars relating to non-profit organizations and Quick Books is helpful. The job requires about 10 hours per week, most of which can be done at home. The finance officer should be available to attend the weekly Monday night work session at wing headquarters to issue checks and participate in meeting of the wing finance committee. Training will be available.

Director of Information Technology (DIT): The Director of Information Technology (DIT) should have a good working knowledge of WIN NT/2000/XP and the MS Office Suite in versions for NT/2000/XP. They should also have experience in networking, to include routers, print servers, gateways, switches, and hubs. Also required is a basic understanding of Windows NT based servers, including domain controllers and file servers. Applicants should also understand the concepts of network security and information assurance. For our web based systems, the DIT will require knowledge of basic web page design, FTP accounts, POP mail server accounts and list servers. The DIT must also be available to attend the Monday night staff meetings on a fairly regular basis (2-3 times per month)

Those interested in either position should send a copy of their resume detailing their experience to the Chief of Staff at cs.va@vawg.cap.gov.

3. WING NEWS- The Wing has some new items for sale. They were given out at the Conference as part of the registration package and there are some left for you to buy! There is a 14 X 14 tote bag with handles (\$2.50), a 5 X 8 blue folder with pad of paper (\$3.00) and a blue lanyard with VAWG CAP on it (\$2.50). The tote bag and folder have the Virginia Wing logo stenciled on them. (See conference attendee to get a look at them) They can be bought individually, or squadrons can put in an order. Just send your monies to Wing HQ they will be sent out the next day.

Virginia Wing CAP will be conducting **Squadron Leadership School (SLS)** the weekend of 8-9 November 2003. The hosts for this event will be the Danville Composite Squadron, Maj. Eugene Jackson, Commander. SLS is an introduction to the functions and workings of CAP at the squadron level, and an excellent primer for those aspiring to leadership or staff positions in a squadron. It is also an excellent opportunity for those working towards level 2 certification to 'fill a square' with a required course, however all CAP senior members may attend. Preference will be given to those individuals pursuing level 2 certification if space becomes an issue. Currently we have room for 30-35 students, with a maximum of 50 students.

The venue for the course will be the large conference room at the Danville Regional Airport (KDAN). The address is 424 Airport Dr. Danville VA 24540. Sign-in will be from 0730 to 0800, and the class will commence promptly at 0800. You must attend the entire course to be given attendance credit. Use of CAP aircraft has been approved by the Wing Commander under code B12 for transportation to/from the course. There will be ample POV parking at the CAP building lot adjacent to the main terminal.

Those wishing to attend will need to submit a current CAPF 17 (Mar03), have completed Level I and CPPT and be enrolled in a CAP specialty training track per CAPR 50-17. Completed forms may be mailed to Maj Eugene Jackson, CAP, 829 Corn Tassel Rd, Danville VA 24540. E-mailed forms may be submitted to gjackson@gamewood.net as an attachment. Forms are due NLT 24 Oct 03 to allow processing by Wing.

Beverages and snacks will be provided. Lunch will be the responsibility of the student. Our hosts are planning something special for dinner Saturday evening at the airport.

Our hosts have negotiated special rates on hotel rooms for this event. Specifics covering locations, rates, and transportation will be provided in a forth-coming message. Also, camping will be available at the airport for those wishing to do so.

Group 3 will be conducting a Transportation Seminar on 22 November 2003. The Wing Transportation Officer will be conducting training classes on vehicle and driving requirements. The CAPF 73 will be discussed. There will be a Q & A session following. Also, CAP driver licenses will be issued during this time provided the correct papers are presented. Squadron Commanders should advise your senior members of this activity. The location will be given as soon as confirmed and an activity number issued.

The Virginia Wing and National Association of Flight Instructors (NAFI) takes pride in announcing a significant aviation accomplishment on the part of James L Stover, an independent flight instructor and a resident of Fredericksburg, VA. Recently, Jim's designation as a Master CFI (Certificated Flight Instructor) was renewed by NAFI, his professional aviation organization. To help put this achievement in its proper perspective, there are approximately 81,000 CFIs in the United States. Fewer than four hundred of them have achieved that distinction thus far. The last eight national Flight Instructors of the Year were Master CFIs while Jim is one of only 10 Virginia aviation educators to earn this prestigious "Master" title. Earning this designation is tantamount to having the words *summa cum laude* emblazoned on an instructor's certificate. These Masters truly represent the crème de la crème of our industry!

The next time you are online at home, log in the National HQ. Pull up your personal record and check all the information. Don't forget to check your area code, phone number, home and email address. Wing Admin cannot change this information for you-you must do it yourself. The information in your record at National is used by the VAWG Paperless website. If it is not correct, you may be missing out.

The Civil Air Patrol Bookstore is now online. You can view it at www.capmart.org. Check it out!

4. PERSONNEL: Please note: even though the current edition of CAPR 39-2 requires you send membership application and money to Wing, it has been superceded. **ALL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS AND ALL DUES, NATIONAL AND WING, SHOULD BE SENT TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.**

5. EMERGENCY SERVICES- Mission and Transport Pilots and Observers: The MIMS database on the National Headquarters web site should now have the ES specialty ratings for MP, MP-T and MO posted. If you have one of these ratings, please check the database to make sure you have been credited with the rating. If you have a valid Virginia Wing 101 card for any of the three ratings and the rating is not reflected on MIMS, please e-mail Jim Scuffham to verify your status. The calculation that provides our funding from the Air Force is based mostly on the number qualified individuals with the above ratings, so it is in our best interest to accurately reflect these qualifications in the database. Please note that this is NOT the database on the Virginia Paperless Wing.

Evaluators. One of the remaining problems in the Wing is the incorrect or undocumented submission for advanced specialty ratings. Only fully qualified evaluators may sign 101T forms indicating successful demonstration of a task. The evaluators must also verify ALL the information on CAPF 100 prior to signing as requestor. Please review all your documentation to ensure completeness and accuracy prior to sending your requests to the Licensing Officer.

On 15 November Virginia Wing is hosting a tabletop exercise at Wing Headquarters. The Operations Order has been distributed to everyone on the Wing list server and plans have been finalized. If you would like to attend, please e-mail Jim Stover, the Director of Emergency Services as soon as possible with the information requested in the order. There is still room for more participants. This exercise is fully funded and is an opportunity to learn from past searches how mission base staff plans a search for a missing aircraft. In order to attend, you are required to have only a valid GES card and be in a CAP uniform.

Status of the Alerting System. As of this writing, implementation of the enhanced Virginia Wing pager system is progressing toward full implementation. The IC portion of the alerting system is the current focus and is expected to reach fruition within the next month. The implementation of the Wing-wide pager portion is less complicated. Expect completion of this by 31 December. The Director of Emergency Services will make a formal announcement declaring the use of the new pagers by e-mail. Until then, the numeric pager system remains in effect. Further information will be posted on the Paperless Wing as it becomes available. Those who wish to purchase a Wing pager should mail a check payable to Civil Air Patrol for \$60 to the Director of Emergency Services. Be sure to include \$2 cash to cover the cost of mailing.

The Virginia Department of Emergency Services will be hosting ground training classes over the two weekends of 23-25 January and 27-29 February 2004 at Camp Jaycee, Bedford, Virginia. To sign-up, proceed to the VDEM web site at vaemergency.com and look under training. The ground courses offered are excellent courses of instruction.

6. OPERATIONS- Starting October 1, 2003 the hourly maintenance fees for flying VA Wing aircraft changed. The Tach is no longer used. All fees will be based on Hobbs time. The following schedule will apply.

172 20 per hobbs hour; 182 \$24 per hobbs hour
Maule \$24 per hobbs hour; 182RG \$26 per hobbs hour

A new VA Wing Form 13 has been developed and is being mailed to all Groups and units with aircraft. This form is labeled Monthly Aircraft Operations Report. It is to be used for the October reporting cycle due to Wing by November 10 and all monthly reports thereafter. The form is very different from what you are used to. The major difference is the local unit will have to list all flying by category, i.e. A1, A2, B8, B15 etc. All listing is by Hobbs time. You then have to total each category and then all the categories. Categories 1 and 2 are funded flying. Category 3 is unfunded flying and the total of flying must equal the check forward to Wing.

The Monthly Aircraft Utilization Report, VAF-13, the CAPF 99, Flight Logs and any monies due Wing must be in Wing Headquarters by the 10th of each month. A FAX will not be accepted as your final report unless specifically directed by the Director of Operations.

Cases of aircraft engine oil are being stored at Wing Headquarters for use by the Squadrons with aircraft. Aircraft custodians can arrange to pick up cases of oil to be used for maintenance of planes. A check out sheet is posted in the shed to be filled out when you pick up oil. Give to Admin Assistant so oil can be ordered when needed.

7. TRANSPORTATION Driving the interstates this weekend here in Virginia I counted no fewer than nine deer that had been struck by either a car or truck on the shoulder of the interstate. Earlier this year I released the following tips about avoiding deer collisions and thought it would be timely to reissue the safety notice.

Tips for avoiding deer collisions

Be vigilant in early morning and evening hours, the most active time for deer.

Drive cautiously at all times.

Heed deer crossing and speed limit signs.

Always wear your seat belt.

- Most people injured in car-deer crashes were not wearing their seat belt.

If you see a deer by the side of the road, slow down and blow your horn with one long blast to frighten the deer away.

When you see one deer, look for another one.

- Deer seldom run alone.

If you find a deer looming in your headlights, don't expect the deer to move away.

- Headlights can confuse a deer and cause the animal to freeze.

- Brake firmly when you notice a deer in or near your path.

Do not swerve. It can confuse the deer as to where to run.

- It can also cause you to lose control and hit a tree or another car.

If your vehicle strikes a deer, do not touch the animal if it is still alive.

- The frightened deer, in attempting to move, could hurt you or itself.

- The best advice is to get your car off the road if possible, and call the police.

When I first released this information I received several emails regarding deer and other animal strikes. Remember that as development continues to expand into areas once populated by woodland animals we are forcing wildlife to attempt to cross busy interstates and other roadways. Deer Warnings, those little plastic whistles that mount on your bumpers can be used to cause a high pitched tone to 'ward away' any animals as you approach. Whether they are effective I can not say. Your best option is always to drive defensively and remain alert to your surroundings and other drivers.

8. SAFETY- Your third quarterly safety report, CAPF 16, was due at Wing HQ by 10 October 03. The Wing Supplement also requires that a copy of this report be sent to your Group Commander. Please refer to CAPF 62-1 1c(1). Do not send both copies to Wing. Thank you for bring all your reports and annual surveys up to date before our inspection.

During our inspection, the question came up regarding the use of the VAF 4 for the appointment of Safety Officers. We have received instructions from our Inspector General that we must use the CAPF 2a for all appointments. The Wing Commander has been informed and we must set a suspense date for all Group and Units to comply. Please send a CAPF 2a for your appointed Safety Officer no later than 15 October 03. Thanks you for your support in SAFETY.

9. FINANCE: There is a new Unit Finance Committee Guide posted on the Virginia Wing Paperless Wing Web Site. This information was developed to assist unit finance committees below wing level. It provides some basic accounting information, clarification of CAPR 173-1, and a checklist of important policies and deadlines. Unit commanders, finance officers and administrative officers should find this guide helpful in administering their unit finance program.

The document may be found under Document Display, General Information, and Unit Finance Committee Guide. Any questions may be directed to me at fm.va@vawg.cap.gov.

10. DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION - Squadron and Group Commanders: In this mailing with the bulletin you will find a brief description of the duties of the Drug Demand Reduction Officer (DDRO) and Cadet, Drug Demand Reduction Officer (C/DDRO). Please appoint an interested senior member/cadet to serve in these positions. They will be responsible for receiving and distributing material in your squadron / group. Drug Demand Reduction is becoming an integral part of the CAP program especially in the cadet areas. This could be an additional duty within you squadron / group. Wing Headquarters is beginning a lending library of DDR videos, which may be used by your squadron to support your DDR program. A listing of available videos and a brief description of their message is being worked on at this time and will be mailed at a later date. Items to be checked out may be picked up at Commanders Call and kept for one month or until the next Commanders Call to keep the cost of mailing down.

Our Middle East Region Honor Guard performed a wonderful rifle drill performance for civilians and military at the Pentagon on Monday morning. There were a couple hundred people that saw the Middle East Region Honor Guard perform at the opening ceremony for the Red Ribbon, Anti Drug Program at the Pentagon. There were Honor Guard cadets from Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, North Carolina and South Carolina Wings who participated in the drill performance. Assisting were senior members and parents from Middle East Region Staff, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, North Carolina and NATCAP Wings. Also, Lt Col Sohan from MELR and Claudine Sayegh attended the program. Thanks to all for your hard work and assistance.

11. HEALTH SERVICES OFFICE- We are used to the usual four seasons that come with the changing of the calendar; Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Then there is 'Flu Season'. Here in the Mid Atlantic states that usually hits us around late Fall (November) and early Winter (December).

You may or may not have heard of a nasal spray version of the flu vaccine called FluMist. This vaccine is a live, influenza vaccine given as a nasal spray. It cannot be used for pregnant women or persons with an unhealthy immune system (e.g., cancer, HIV/AIDS). It is also not approved in persons over 50 years old. Individuals who receive the FluMist are at risk of spreading the vaccine virus to others for as long as 21 days after they are inoculated. Persons with an unhealthy immune system may become ill if they are infected with the live virus.

While avoid a shot seems like a great idea, the fact remains that the nasal route carries with it a significant risk of harm to others. I encourage all our members to check with their health care provider or local clinic for availability of the flu shot and arrange to get one before 1) Flu Season hits and 2) before they run out.

13. AEROSPACE EDUCATION- Major David C. Scull, CAP has been serving as Director of Aerospace Education (DAE) since 6 September 2003.

For those of you that don't know me I have been member of CAP for nine years and have served as Aerospace Education Officer, Operations Officer and DCC for the Minuteman Squadron in Northern Virginia during the same period. I am also a mission and counter drug pilot. I am retired from the US Department of Transportation where my job was to prepare the Joint DOD/DOT Federal Radio navigation Plan. After leaving federal service I worked for several engineering consulting firms and as Director of the Institute of Navigation. These jobs gave me the opportunity to be involved in many

aerospace activities which I found to be fascinating. I know that the Wing Aerospace Education program is a bigger job than any I have been tasked with but I am determined make Virginia Wing a leader in this area. I won't be able to do it however without your help.

I am happy to say that Aerospace Education Officers (AEO)'s have been identified in most squadrons but many are without one assigned. In that case the Squadron CC becomes the AEO. This is not a good situation as Squadron CC's have enough other duties. I plan to visit as many squadrons as possible to help in getting an AE program started or on track if it is needed. Please let me know if there is a particular date and time you would like me to visit.

Now is a good time to think about enrolling your Squadron in the Aerospace Excellence Award (AEX) Program. It can give some substance to your AE program and it is lots of fun. You should be getting the sign up package in the mail by now and the application has to be in by 31 December. Once registered with National Headquarters you will get the project books which have been expanded to two volumes. You do one project each month, January through June and before you know it is completed making you eligible for a beautiful squadron plaque and individual certificates.

I am beginning to work on the 2004 Wing Aerospace Plan of Action (POA). I would appreciate any input you might want to give me such as a site for a Wing AE Conference, ways to recruit teachers as Aerospace Education Members (AEM)'s and Brewer/Crown Circle Award nominations. I have been working with Dave Reisenwitz of the Virginia Science Museum and a Fredericksburg Squadron Aerospace Education Member on ways to expand both our internal and external AE programs. Major Al Jones of the Hummel Squadron has been working with me on ways to get our Internal Program working.

The response to the request for 3rd Quarter AE reports was better than for the past two quarters but we have a long way to go since only 14 out of 31 squadrons have responded. I have scanned the Squadron AE reporting form and put it into MS Word Format which should make it easier to prepare as much information is repeated in each quarterly report. For those that do not have access to a computer the form from the AEO Officer's Handbook CAPP 15 can be copied and filled out by hand. I also have this form in a simplified paper version which I can provide. My Email Address is kd4sv@arrl.net and my home address is 7897 Wellington Drive, Warrenton, VA 20186, Phone: 540 349-9310. Remember, the 4th Quarterly Report is due 10 January 2004.

Newsbreak

Coastal Composite Squadron - Four cadet NCOs from the Coastal Composite Squadron (VA-095) in Virginia Beach completed an in-house NCO Academy on Saturday, October 25th. This leadership training day was developed and conducted by Squadron Leadership Officer, Senior Member Rochelle O'Hagan, a native of New Zealand. SM O'Hagan brought some innovative leadership exercises from her experience while serving in a similar position "Down Under."

Cadets Kenny O'Loughlin, Justin Warren, Sean Carranza, and Matt DeFoore received advanced training in drill technique, customs and courtesies, personal uniform standards, and also in mentoring, leading, and motivating new CAP cadets. They participated in situational leadership exercises like rescuing an injured person from a vehicle that had been damaged in a mine field explosion. These exercises challenged the NCOs to use every bit of their past training and resourcefulness. This NCO Academy has provided the practical training and leadership experience that will enable the four participants to serve capably as future officers in the Coastal Composite Squadron.

Also assisting in the training were TFO Francois Cote, C/Maj. Carter Kunz, and Cadet Commander C/LTC Thompson Kunz.

Danville Composite Squadron- We are Struggling' to keep our doors open with only 89 members now (will be 90 when I send in the application I got today), hardly any training going on with only 3 people successfully passing the UDF in Blacksburg last weekend, having two pilot attend the National Check Pilot's course, flew a total of 13 sorties last month of O rides with 3 cadets on most sorties, of course that trip to DC getting those Squadron level awards from COL Cramer, the Group I SLS class being held 11/8 and 11/9, followed by a Radio Operators Course by 1LT John Powers on Sunday, 11/9/03 by DAN Squadron members... Heck, I just don't know what to write.

Congratulations are in order to the following members for earning their Mitchell and promotion to C/2Lt- Nathaniel Evans, Mark Rominger and Michael Rominger. Our Seniors are working hard also. Promotions have been earned by 1 Lt Angela Jackson, 2 Lt Catherine Howard, Ron Howard and Chris Curran.

2Lt Bob Nesselroad has passed his Check Pilot ride today with Capt Lee Hussey. We welcome another check pilot to Group I.

Our new Cadet Commander is C/2Lt N. Evans. His Deputy is C/CMSgt Josiah Noble and C/CMsgt Michael Wilson is the Cadet First Sergeant.

Hampton Roads Composite Squadron recently completed their first Model Rocketry Program with six cadets earning their model rocketry badge. We conduct ongoing classes for our new members to bring everyone to a mission ready status. Cadets are planning a night navigation scavenger hunt for Oct 30th which is sure to be not only educational but loads of fun!

Holston Valley Composite Squadron- The Squadron has been busy with a presentation by Dr. Bailey on Angel Flight. This is a volunteer program of pilots that volunteer their time, aircraft and fuel at no charge to transport people to medical

facilities around the USA. On Oct 16, 2003 TFO Justin Adkinson gave a Drug Demand Reduction Program to help with Red Ribbon Week and the Squadron had a visit for NHQ DDR Cadet Ken a 10 foot blow up presentation aide. Orientation Flights will be held on Oct 25, 2003 thanks to Maj Robert Dorton and 1st Lt. Curtis Humphreys. 2d Lt. Banks Garrison, TFO Adkinson, and C/SrA William Garrison will participate in the 2003 Middle East Region Conference on Oct 24 - 26, 2003 at the Sheraton Park Inn in Richmond and TFO Adkinson will help escort the MER Honor Guard at their performance at the Pentagon on Oct 27, 2003. Congratulations to 2d Lt. Fanni Sue Routh-Marsh on her promotion. Two Senior Members are planning on attending the SLS Course being held at Danville Squadron in November. NOTE: 2d Lt. Marsh the Squadron PAO is without a computer. Please send PAO related material to TFO Adkinson, Advisor to the PAO at va129dadp@hotmail.com until further notice.

Langley Composite Squadron – We welcome back Cadet Matt Streams who is transferring from Colorado and bid a farewell to Cadet Jonathan Hendricks who is transferring to New Hampshire.

We congratulate the following cadets on their promotions: C/2Lt C. Gates and A. Mascaro; C/CMSgt M. Miller; C/SMSgt K. Welsch and C/A1C J. Hendricks.

An overnight FTX was held at the York River State Park. In addition to excellent training, we had fun!

The Honor Guard presented colors at the reunion banquet for the 345th Bomber Group of WWII.

We are so proud to have as one of our members Capt Charlene Shidisky who was awarded the Senior Member of the Year award at the Wing Banquet. Cadet A. Mascaro was awarded the Mitchell award and also placed first in the Impromptu Speech Category.

Leesburg Composite Squadron - Leesburg began the month hosting the VA Wing Conference which was a great success for all. A special thanks to Jan Gregory for organizing the event and the volunteers who made it possible. Leesburg was honored during the conference with the Deputy Cadet Commander of the Year award given to 1st Lt. John White.

Sixteen cadets took part in the first FTX of the year held at Franklin Park in Purcellville. Topics including orienteering, map reading, communications and radio procedures, DF and ELT, basic training and emergency evacuation of wounded as well as operating a mission base and coordinating ground teams was covered by the training staff of 8 senior members.

Senior member Todd Warr passed his Form 5 in the C-172 which adds another pilot to Leesburg. The squadron now has five mission pilots and 8 pilots with form 5's.

Leesburg joined in making the annual Dulles Plane Pull a success flying the Maule in for the open house and then hosting a recruiting table which was very popular with the public. Several prospective members have attended meetings who first learned about the CAP through the Plane Pull.

Newport News Composite Squadron- Following the devastation of hurricane Isabel, NNCS cadets and supportive parents continue to perform many additional hours of self-initiated public service in addition to squadron activities. Our hat is off to these self-motivated and caring cadets who take public service seriously.

Cadets C/2Lt Anthony Taylor, C/CMSgt Sturdy, and C/Amn Byrd participated in UDF missions that all concluded with successful find results. Each will be awarded the "find" ribbon in the coming months.

Two new cadets have joined NNCS. They are C/AB Arnold and C/AB Beale.

Cadet C/CMSgt Sturdy participated in the Competitive Public Speaking event hosted at the Wing Conference. C/CMSgt Sturdy placed third in the competition.

C/AB Arnott, C/AB Bullis, C/AB Herman, C/Amn Wingfield, C/AB Dymen, C/AB Zeller participated in cadet orientation flights on 19 October. Lt Jordi Catusas-Servia has graciously served as the orientation pilot. Recently SM David Rutishauser has been added to the list of qualified cadet orientation pilots. The current squadron goal is to safely fly all cadets through 1/2 of the orientation flight program by 1 May 2004. We are EXCITED to learn the Virginia Wing Blanik L-23 is coming to Chesapeake Airport for a few months.

SM David Rutishauser is also assisting 2Lt. Byrd in teaching Aerospace Education topics. SM Rutishauser is employed by the Air Safety Competency at NASA Langley Research Center and brings a wealth of technical expertise.

NNCS senior members have also been extremely busy in October. The monthly senior busyness meeting was highlighted by a presentation about the proper wear of CAP uniforms. Many of the CAP uniform combinations were modeled by CAP members in a display which complemented the Wing power point presentation. Additionally, several knowledgeable cadet members briefed the seniors on the proper care of CAP uniforms.

NNCS seniors and cadets were also quite active in October. At the time of this writing, NNCS had responded to four ELT missions at local area Navy and Marine bases. All four missions resulted in successful "finds." NNCS members who responded include: Lt. Sturdy, Cdt. Sturdy, Lt. Helen Woods, Lt. Byrd, and Cdt. Byrd, Lt. Portanova, LT Bennett, Cdt. Taylor. NNCS was also prepared to respond to the missing aircraft alert from North Carolina.

NNCS is planning to have the annual Winter Holiday Party on 9 December from 6-10 p.m. Many awards for cadets and seniors will be presented at this end of year celebration.

Southside Composite Squadron continues to grow in membership, adding several new senior members in recent months. Congratulations to 2d Lt Doug Johnson on his promotion.

The cadets are doing an excellent job, with almost all classes now being taught by the cadet leadership. Cadet Officers and senior NCOs teach leadership lab and aerospace activities. Model rocketry safety was taught in October since the squadron will be starting the model rocketry program. C/2d Lt Goins and C/CMSgt Skaperdas taught a class on the 24hr packs in preparation for the upcoming squadron SARX.

C/A1C Russell Edmonds participated as a field participant in the Group 4 Cadet Leadership Survival Weekend held October 10-12, 2003 at Fort Pickett, VA. C/Amn Andrew Brady Jr. served as support staff for this event. Several seniors also participated in the weekend's activities which included the Leadership Reaction Course.

The Southside Composite Squadron Color Guard presented the Colors for CARITAS' "Night on the Streets" on Friday, October 17, 2003 in Monroe Park following a "soup line" dinner typical of that served to the homeless. The five member team consisted of C/AB Michael Scales, C/AB Alexander Forster, C/A1C Guy Butts III, C/A1C Russell Edmonds, and C/2d Lt Laura Thiem. They were led to the stage by a bagpipe player. Unfortunately, rain cancelled most events for the evening. The cadets received a T-shirt for their work and have been invited back for next year. In her thank you to the team, Debra Bosko of Caritas said "You all Rock! There have been many compliments about the group and how the youth took to heart your beautiful presentation of the Colors." Outstanding job!

C/2d Lt Thiem participated as a member of the Middle East Region Honor Guard at the MER Conference on Saturday, October 25, 2003. She played two parts in the DDR play and performed with the drill team.

Upcoming events include a squadron SARX in late November. The cadets will also be using CAP Flight 2000 space shuttle simulator in November. December planning includes a holiday party and two fun activity nights over the holidays.